

Camden, New Jersey Renewal Community

ID	Renewal Community Name	OLAS#	Population	Sq Miles	Poverty	Unemployment	Low Income Households
51	Camden, NJ	NJ0013	68,888	6	38%	17%	75%

Camden, New Jersey currently shares a Round I Empowerment Zone with Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Empowerment Zone will continue operating in conjunction with the neighboring Renewal Community.

Camden's Course of Action is based on the City of Camden Multi-Year Recovery Plan. Their Course of Action chooses the four following strategies:

Reducing Tax Burdens

Camden seeks passage of the "Camden Rehabilitation and Economic Recovery Act," which would provide tax credits for businesses that expand or locate operations within Camden, retain sales tax revenue in the city and provide new homebuyers with an income tax credit.

Improving Local Services

Camden plans to balance the city's operating budget and use various funding sources to extend public services including child-care, counseling, crime prevention, youth services and community development activities in support of low and very low income persons.

Reducing Crime

Camden has had a proven track record in crime reduction with a 44% decrease in the crime index since 1992. This is attributed to community oriented policing and Operation Sunburst. Camden will soon implement Safe Educational Environment Measure, an anti drug program and Weed and Seed.

Reducing Government Requirements

The fourth strategy, Reducing Governmental Requirements, involves the adoption of new master plan and the opening of an Office of Business Development in April 2000.

Soliciting In-Kind Donations

Camden will facilitate the transfer of city owned property to local housing groups, community development corporations or private companies.

Involving Community Partners

- Cooper's Ferry Development Association
- Save Our Waterfront, Inc.
- Center for Family Services, Inc.
- Respond, Inc.
- United Way of Camden County
- YWCA of Camden County and Vicinity